

**EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.**



**320630**

**Date:** Sunday, February 08, 2009

**From:** James Mitchell, OSC

**To:** Don Klopke, IEPA

kenneth brockhouse, U.S. Coastguard

**Subject:** Initial POLREP

## Caterpillar Oil Spill

2200 Channahon Road, Rockdale, IL

Latitude: 41.4831

Longitude: -88.1372

**POLREP No.:** 1

**Site #:****Reporting Period:** 02/08/2009

**D.O. #:**

**Start Date:****Response Authority:**

OPA

**Mob Date:**

2/8/2009

**Response Type:**

## Emergency

**Completion Date:**

**NPL Status:**

**CERCLIS ID #:**

**Incident Category:**

## Removal Action

**RCRIS ID #:**

**Contract #**

**FPN#** E09508

**Reimbursable Account #**

## Site Description

The National Response Center (NRC) received a call at 1039 CST on 02/08/2009 about an oil spill at the Caterpillar facility at 2200 Channahon Road, Rockdale, Illinois (near Joliet, IL). The Des Plaines River is located along the southern property boundary of the Caterpillar facility. USEPA OSC and their START contractor mobilized to the site and received the following details regarding the spill:

- at approximately 2400 hrs on 2/8/09, the alarm of the API oil/water separator sounded (the oil/water separator receives industrial oily waste water from the Caterpillar plant)
- the automatic shut off controls of the oil/water separator failed and the contents overflowed onto concrete area surrounding the separator and holding tanks
- security noticed the incident at 0745 and notified Caterpillar emergency personnel
- Rockland Fire Department and Will County HAZMAT arrived onsite
- Caterpillar emergency personnel notified local public works, USEPA, IEPA, USCG, Heritage (Caterpillar contractor)
- all notified personnel onsite to assess incident
- approximately 65,000 gallons of waste oil (~30% is oil and 70% water) was released from the API oil/water separator
- approximately 10% of the release is expected to have reached the Des Plaines River

## Current Activities

- Heritage and Eagle Services conducting cleanup activities on land and river

- contents of spill being pumped into catch basin which leads back to the AAO system (Acids, Alkalines, and Oil Treatment System)
- Heritage deploys booms upgradient and downgradient along river
- approximately 400 ft of boom has been deployed along shoreline directly south of the spill area
- ExxonMobil, located downgradient of site, boom (always deployed in river)did not show any traces of contamination
- Stepan Chemical, located downgradient of site, deployed boom after incident and a sheen has been detected on boom; approximately 500 ft of boom deployed
- Flint Hill Resources, located downgradient of site, deployed boom after incident however boom did not show any traces of contamination and Flint Hill Resources removed boom from river
- USCG conducts fly over along river and noticed pockets of sheen
- wooded area between facility and river being cleaned out in order to assess contaminated foliage
- Heritage excavating pits to use as catch basins to remove residual contamination
- Heritage vacking up gravel(along fenceline of wooded area)
- Caterpillar created staging area for contaminated gravel to drain to the AAO, area is bermed off in order to contain runoff
- Heritage rolling out absorbent fabric along concrete areas in order to collect additional residual contamination

### Next Steps

- continue with cleanup activities on land and river (boom check/replacement, continued concrete cleanup, and wooded area cleanup)
- clear utilities along fenceline north of the separator and dig hole for further investigation
- find out results of Caterpillar investigation into automatic shutoff failure of oil/water separator
- skimming/sucking up oil that has been contained by boom

### Estimated Costs \*

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not

claim for cost recovery.

[www.epaossc.org/CaterpillarOilSpill](http://www.epaossc.org/CaterpillarOilSpill)